

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Minerals Management Service****Extension of Post-Sale Evaluation Period for Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 166**

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice to Extend Post-Sale Evaluation Period for Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 166.

**SUMMARY:** This notice extends by 45 days, the post-sale evaluation period for Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 166. The Minerals Management Service (MMS) will complete evaluating all the bids received in this sale by July 18, 1997. This action is necessary due to the unusually high number of bids received in response to this lease sale.

**DATES:** The post-sale evaluation period ends on July 18, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Lore, Regional Supervisor, Resource Evaluation, Gulf of Mexico Region, telephone (504) 736-2710.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In the Central Gulf of Mexico Sale 166, held March 5, 1997, we received 1,790 bids on 1,032 tracts, 799 of which passed to a second phase required for detailed evaluations. This unprecedented response by industry in Sale 166 resulted from the enactment of the Outer Continental Shelf Deep Water Royalty Relief Act (Pub. L. 104-58) and other factors, such as higher natural gas and oil prices. Consequently, MMS is unable to conduct and complete the entire bid review process within the 90 days, i.e., by June 3, 1997. Under provisions of § 256.47(e)(2), MMS is extending the bid evaluation period until July 18, 1997.

Dated: May 22, 1997.

**Chris C. Oynes,**

*Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement****Draft Environmental Impact Statement, OSM-EIS-29**

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.

**ACTION:** Extension of Comment Period of Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** On January 31, 1997, (62 FR 4759), the Environmental Protection

Agency made available for public comment an Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) analyzing the potential impacts to the permanent program regulations implementing and interpreting section 522(e) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). As a result of requests received, OSM is extending the comment period for the DEIS.

**DATES:** *Electronic or written comments:* OSM will accept electronic or written comments on the DEIS until 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on August 1, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** *Electronic or written comments:* Submit electronic comments to [osmrules@osmre.gov](mailto:osmrules@osmre.gov). Mail written comments to the Administrative Record, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20240 or hand-deliver to Room 117 at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andy DeVito, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; Telephone (202) 208-2701; E-Mail: [adevito@osmre.gov](mailto:adevito@osmre.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On January 31, 1997 (62 FR 4759), OSM made available for public comment a DEIS analyzing the impact of two proposed rules and the alternatives under consideration, dealing with the interpretation and implementation of section 522(e) of SMCRA. Both proposed rules were published on January 31, 1997 (62 FR 4836-72). The first rule, RIN 1029-AB42, would amend OSM's regulations to redefine the circumstances under which a person has valid existing rights to conduct surface coal mining operations in areas where such operations are otherwise prohibited by section 522(e) of SMCRA. The second rule, RIN 1029-AB82, is a proposed interpretative rulemaking to address the question of whether subsidence due to underground mining is a surface coal mining operation and thus prohibited in areas enumerated in section 522(e) of SMCRA.

The comment period was scheduled to close on June 2, 1997. In order to accommodate several requests for an extension of the public comment period, OSM is extending the comment period until 5 p.m. Eastern time on August 1, 1997.

Under separate **Federal Register** Notice the public comment period for the proposed rules and draft economic

analysis is also being extended until 5 p.m. Eastern time on August 1, 1997.

Dated: May 27, 1997.

**Mary Josie Blanchard,**

*Assistant Director, Program Support.*

[FR Doc. 97-14163 Filed 5-29-97; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE****Drug Enforcement Administration****Greer H. Ricketson, M.D.; Revocation of Registration**

On December 19, 1996, the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued an Order to Show Cause to Greer H. Ricketson, M.D., of Alexandria, Louisiana, notifying him of an opportunity to show cause as to why DEA should not revoke his DEA Certificate of Registration, BR4331067, under 21 U.S.C. 824(a), and deny any pending applications for registration pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 823(f), for reason that he is not authorized to handle controlled substances in the State of Louisiana, and his continued registration would be inconsistent with the public interest. The Order to Show Cause specifically alleged that:

“(1) During an investigation of [his] practice conducted by the Louisiana State Police, [he] wrote the following prescriptions for controlled substances without a legitimate medical purpose for an undercover law enforcement officer . . . :

a. On February 28, 1996 for Tenuate, a Schedule IV controlled substance;

b. On March 21, 1996 for Ionamin, a Schedule IV controlled substance;

c. On March 29, 1996 for Roxicet, a Schedule II controlled substance;

d. On April 15, 1996 for Roxicet.

(2) On April 18, 1996, [he was] arrested for the above acts and charged with four counts of prescribing controlled substances without a legitimate medical purpose and not in the course of medical practice, all in violation of Louisiana law. Trial is pending in this criminal case.

(3) Also based on [his] above conduct, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (“Board”) issued a decision on October 8, 1996 that immediately revoked [his] license to practice medicine. The Board concluded, after having heard [his] testimony and that of [the undercover officer]:

It is clear that [you] made absolutely no effort to ascertain the physical condition of [the undercover officer] and that [you] prescribed controlled substances without justification and merely because [you were]